by the Government to prosecute two foreign nationals namely Francois Clavel and philippe Elle and two Indians namely Capt. S.M. Furtado and Prof. K.V. Thomas for commission of offences under the Act.

Establishment of a separate Statutory Development Board for Konkan

3391. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position in respect of the proposal for establishment of a Development Board for Konkan;

(b) the steps taken by Government to amend the respective Article of the Constitution;

(c) by when the Konkan Development Corporation is likely to come into force; and

(d) the reasons for delay in fulfilling the assurance given in this respect by Government on 10th September, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The Union Government's stand in the matter is that if the existing Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra, which includes Konkan, is not in a position to effectively cater to the developmental requirements of the Konkan region over the period of next couple of years and the Government is convinced that the area could be developed better if it is placed under a separate Development Board, then the matter of creation of a separate Development Board for Konkan can be considered.

(d) the implementation report in respect of the assurance given in September 1996 has already been furnished to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat on 4th April, 1997.

Torture of women suspect by the Delhi Police Persons

3392. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in Pioneer dated the 4th April, 1997 regarding illegal confinement, torture and stripping of a woman suspect by the Delhi Policemen and some senior officers;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the factual position; and

(d) the action taken by Government against those involved in the inhuman treatment meted out to a women suspect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Delhi Police have reported that the woman suspect in question was arrested by the Crime Branch of Delhi Police on grounds of her alleged involvement in harbouring kidnappers and that the allegations that she was tortured or ill-treated was without any substance.

Persons arrested under clause 509 of the IPC

3393. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons arrested under clause 509 of the IPC in various police stations in Delhi during the last three months, month-wise and police station-wise;

(b) whether the persons arrested under clause 509 were later on released on bail; and if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the police authorities investigated the genuineness of the complaints; and if so, the number of such complaints found lacks of basis; and